

Serial No. 10/748,578
Attorney Docket No. 2001P06859WOUS

Amendments To the Claims:

Please amend the claims as shown. Applicants reserve the right to pursue any cancelled claims at a later date.

1. (currently amended) A communication system for establishing a broadband connection between a plurality of subscribers by switches in a communication network, comprising:

a calling subscriber that sends a plurality of bandwidth requests, the plurality of bandwidth requests having a broadband request; and

a switch operatively connected to the calling subscriber that selects a minimum bandwidth, the minimum bandwidth being the smallest bandwidth within the plurality of bandwidth requests;

wherein a minimum connection is established between the calling subscriber and the called subscriber using the minimum bandwidth; and

a broadband connection for the broadband request is not established until after the called subscriber has answered in the event that the called subscriber is unavailable.

2. (previously presented) A communication system according to Claim 1, wherein a data stream determined by the calling subscriber is transmitted via the minimum connection.

3. (previously presented) A communication system according to Claim 1, wherein one of the subscribers first initiates the establishment of the minimum connection and thereafter the establishment of the broadband connection.

4. (previously presented) A communication system according to Claim 15, wherein the calling subscriber is charged as early as the broadband connection setup phase.

5. (previously presented) A communication system according to Claim 4, wherein the establishment of the broadband connection has a higher priority in the communication

network than the establishment of broadband connections which are not charged for during the broadband connection setup phase.

6. (currently amended) A method for establishing a broadband connection between a plurality of subscribers in a communication network, comprising:

receiving a plurality of bandwidth requests from a calling subscriber operatively connected to a switch, the plurality of bandwidth requests having a broadband request;

determining a minimum bandwidth by the switch, the minimum bandwidth being the smallest value within the bandwidth request;

establishing a minimum connection between the calling subscriber and a called subscriber ~~subscribers~~ using the minimum bandwidth, a broadband connection for the broadband request is not established until after the called subscriber has answered in the event that the called subscriber is unavailable; and

establishing a connection after the called subscriber has answered between the subscribers using the plurality of bandwidth requests and excluding the minimum bandwidth after establishing the minimum connection.

7. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 6, wherein a data stream determined by the calling subscriber is transmitted via the minimum connection.

8. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 6, wherein the calling subscriber initiates the establishment of a second broadband connection.

9. (currently amended) A method for charging for a broadband connection between a plurality of subscribers in a communication network, comprising:

indicating a high priority broadband connection by the subscriber initiating the connection;

establishing the high priority broadband connection prior to establishing a non-high priority broadband connection; and

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~~initiating charges for the high priority broadband connection to the subscriber requesting the connection during setup of the connection. charging the subscriber requesting the high priority broadband connection during setup up of the high priority broadband connection and before the high priority broadband connection has been established.~~

10. (previously presented) A method according to Claim 9, wherein the establishment of the broadband connection has a higher priority in the communication network than the establishment of broadband connections which are not charged for during the broadband connection setup phase.

11. (previously presented) A communication system according to Claim 2, wherein one of the subscribers first initiates the establishment of the minimum connection and thereafter the establishment of the broadband connection.

12. (currently amended) A ~~communication system~~ method according to Claim ~~6~~ 15, wherein the calling subscriber is charged as early as the broadband connection setup phase.

13. (previously presented) A communication system according to Claim 3, wherein the calling subscriber is charged as early as the broadband connection setup phase.

14. (original) A method according to Claim 7, wherein a calling subscriber first initiates the establishment of a minimum connection and thereafter the establishment of the broadband connection.

15. (currently amended) A ~~method~~ communication system according to Claim 1, wherein upon receiving a minimum connection answer message the switch is adapted to establish a connection using the plurality of bandwidth requests and excluding the minimum bandwidth request, the connection includes the broadband connection.

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16. (canceled)

17. (canceled)

18. (canceled)

19. (new) A method for charging for a broadband connection between a calling subscriber and a called subscriber in a communication network, comprising:

indicating a high priority broadband connection by the calling subscriber requesting the connection;

establishing the high priority broadband connection prior to establishing a non-high priority broadband connection; and

charging the calling subscriber during setup of the high priority broadband connection so that the calling subscriber is charged from the high priority broadband connection in the event a called subscriber does not answer.

20. (new) A method according to Claim 19, wherein the establishment of the broadband connection charged for during the connection setup phase has a higher priority in the network than a broadband connection not charged during the connection setup phase.